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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

) Group Art Unit

re patent application of:) Examiner Branch et al.

Serial No. 09/870,023

3731

INTERBODY FUSION GRAFTS AND INSTRUMENTATION

REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Hon. Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Applicant's attorney requests that the date for responding to the Office Action dated September 13, 2002 be extended two months to and including February 13, 2003.

The Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge the fee of \$410.00 to Deposit Account No. 23-3030 but do not include any payment of issue fees that are or may become due.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on

> (Date of Deposit) James B. Myers, Jr.

Name of Registered Representative

Date of Signature

Respectfully submitted,

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